

Quarterly Statistics Report

Highlights for Quarter 2 2021–22:

1 July – 30 September 2021

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Executive summary

This report provides statistical information on SQA Accreditation approved qualifications for the first quarter (Q2) of 2021–22 (1 July – 30 September 2021). This data is submitted by awarding bodies, who are responsible for quality assuring their data submissions.

Accredited qualifications

At the end of this period there were 735 accredited qualifications: 447 Scottish Vocational Qualifications (SVQs), 22 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications, and 266 'Other' qualifications.

Data submissions

There were a total of 27,604 registrations (increase of 8.2% from Q1) and 23,134 certifications (increase of 4.8% from Q1) in Q2.

SVQs

Of this total, 8,024 (29.1%) were SVQ registrations and 7,521 (32.5%) were SVQ certifications. The SQA awarding body had the highest percentage of SVQ registrations (83.8%) and certifications (84.6%). The developer with the most registrations and certifications was Skills for Care and Development — 29.1% and 30.5%, respectively.

Regulatory & Licensing qualifications

There were 3,122 registrations and 2,903 certifications, a decrease of 0.4% and increase of 2.5% % respectively compared to Q1. Highfield Qualifications accounted for 41.5% of registrations and 42% % of certifications. The developer with the most registrations and certifications was Scottish Government — 56.3% and 59.2% respectively.

'Other' qualifications

There were 16,458 registrations and 12,710 certifications, an increase of 10% in registrations and 1.2% decrease in certifications compared to Q1. National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health (NEBOSH) accounted for 22.7% of registrations, and 23.4% of certifications. The developer with the largest proportion of registrations and certifications was First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum — 34.5% of registrations 45.1% of certifications.

Qualification category

The area with the highest number of registrations and certifications is 003 Health Care, Social Care and Childcare, as it was in Q1.

Workplace Core Skills

There were a total of 6,302 registrations (a decrease of 15.4% compared to Q1) and 6,621 certifications (an increase of 18.4% compared to Q1).

1 Introduction

SQA Accreditation is the national accrediting body for Scotland with a statutory remit under the Education (Scotland) Act 1996 to accredit and quality assure qualifications in Scotland. Although part of the Scottish Qualifications Authority, SQA Accreditation is distinct and autonomous from SQA's awarding function.

SQA Accreditation sets and specifies the requirements for accrediting qualifications to safeguard and support the interests of learners, parents, funding bodies, employers, providers and Scottish Government. We do this to promote and maintain public confidence in accredited qualifications and approved awarding bodies.

This report summarises the qualification data that has been provided to us by approved awarding bodies, referred to as data submissions. This information covers SQA accredited qualifications during the second quarter (Q2) of 2021–22 (1 July – 30 September 2021) and shows the number of candidates who were:

- ♦ registered for an SQA accredited qualification
- ♦ certificated for an SQA accredited qualification

The data has been analysed in relation to:

- ♦ qualification type
- ♦ awarding body
- ♦ developer
- ♦ qualification category (classification)
- ♦ Workplace Core Skills

For upcoming data submissions, the following deadline dates apply and must be adhered to by all awarding bodies to ensure consistency and accuracy of data in future reports:

Quarter	Submission deadline
Quarter 3 (1 October – 31 December 2021)	14 January 2022
Quarter 4 (1 January– 31 March 2022)	14 April 2022
Quarter 1 (1 April – 30 June 2022)	14 July 2022
Quarter 2 (1 July – 30 September 2022)	14 October 2022

Data submission guidance can be found here:

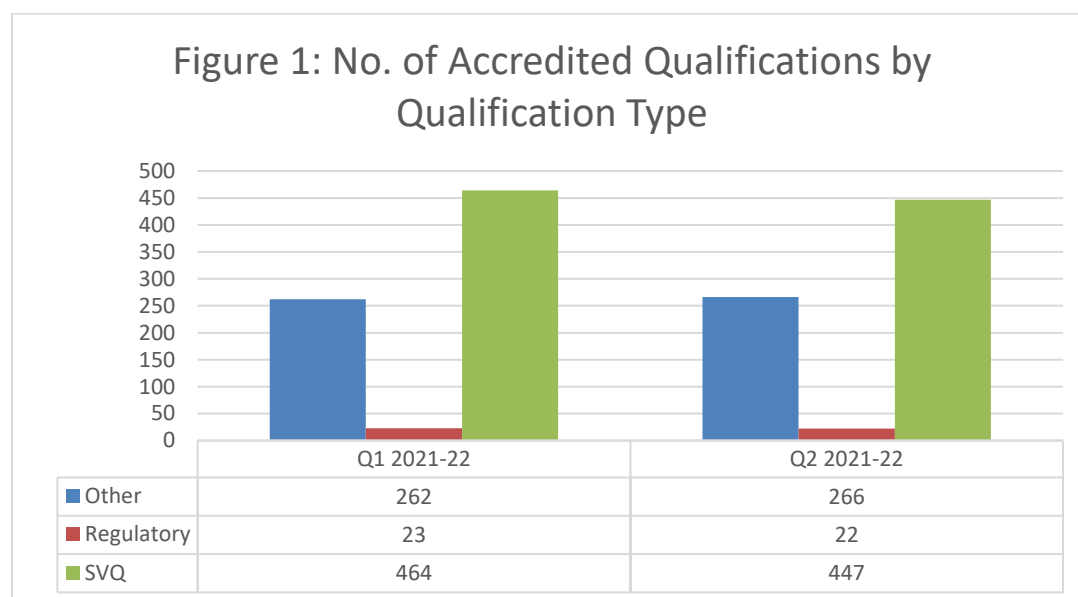
[https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research and Statistics/Data Collection Requirements And Guidance](https://accreditation.sqa.org.uk/accreditation/Research_and_Statistics/Data_Collection_Requirements_And_Guidance)

2 Accredited qualifications

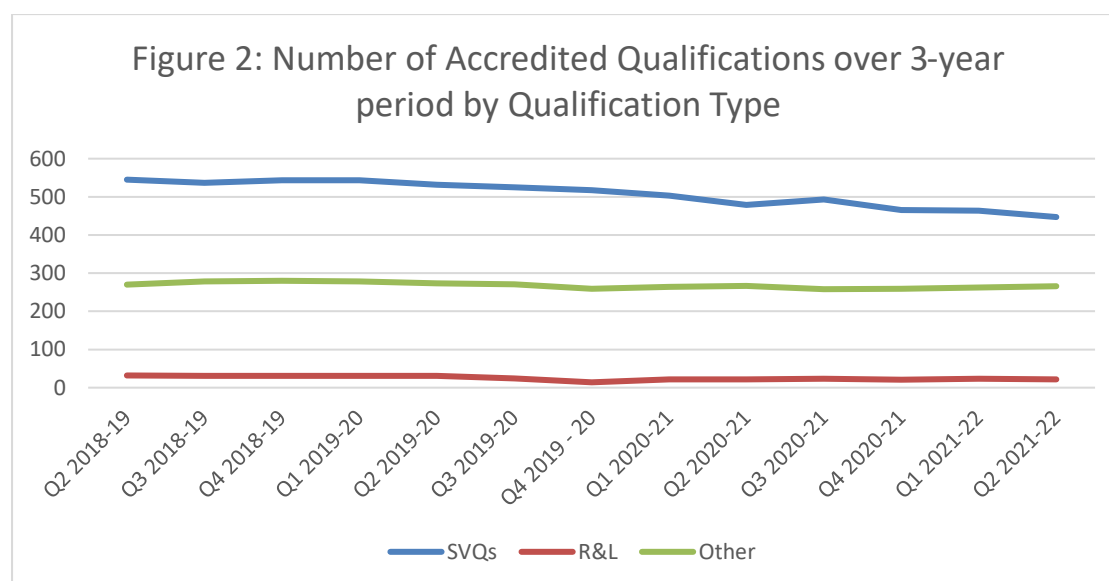
At the end of Q2 of 2021–22 there were 735 live accredited qualifications.¹

- ◆ **447 SVQs** (60.8%)
- ◆ **22 Regulatory and Licensing qualifications** (3%)
- ◆ **266 'Other' qualifications** (36.2%)

¹ Note that this total does not include qualifications that are within their lapsing period.



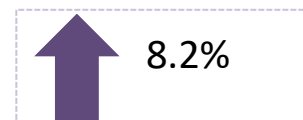
Compared to Q1, the total number of accredited qualifications has decreased by 14. In Q2 2021–22 there were 735 accredited qualifications, compared to 847 in Q2 of 2018–19.



2.1 Total candidate registrations and certifications

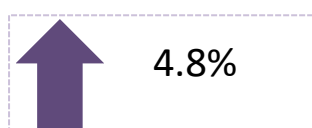
2.1.1 Registrations

27,604 candidates were registered for SQA accredited qualifications in Q2.



This is an 8.2% increase from Q1.

2.1.2 Certifications



23,134 certificates were awarded for SQA accredited qualifications in Q2.

This is a 4.8% increase compared to Q1.

2.2 Top ten qualifications

The qualification with the highest number of registrations and certifications was the NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety.

Table 1: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of registrations

Qualification title	Registrations
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	2288
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	1167
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1038
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	840
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	821
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	713
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	627
Highfield Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	617
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7	617
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	596

NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety had the highest number of registrations in Q2 of 2021–22. Compared to figures from Q1:

- ◆ Registrations for this qualification are 32.2% greater.

Table 2: Top 10 performing qualifications in terms of certifications

Qualification title	Certifications
NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety	1389
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	1165
Safecert SCQF Level 6 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work	1038
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 6	835
Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	771
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	713
Highfield Award in Emergency First Aid at Work at SCQF Level 6	616
Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders at SCQF Level 6	615
SVQ in Social Services and Healthcare at SCQF Level 7	615
SVQ in Social Services (Children and Young People) at SCQF Level 7	588

NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety had the highest number of certifications in Q2 of 2021–22. Compared to figures from Q1:

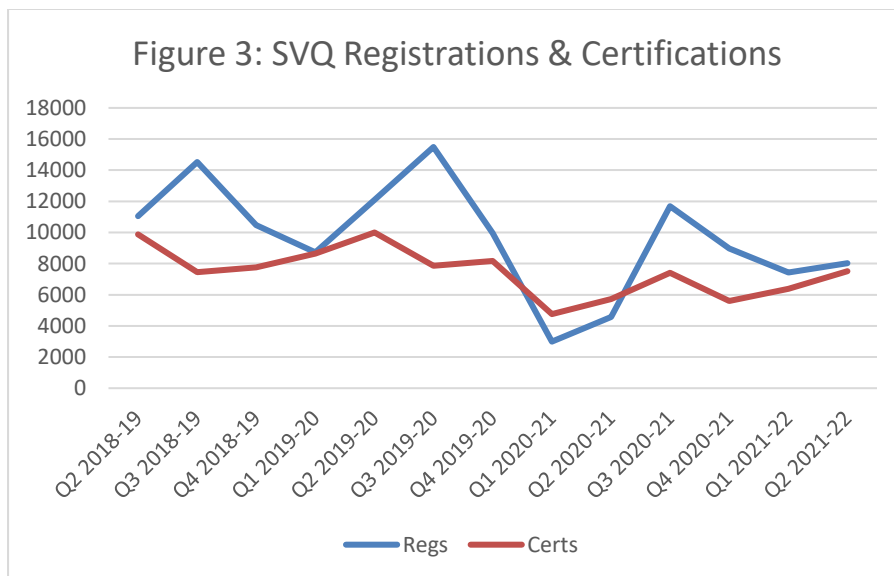
- ◆ Certifications for this qualification are 1.8% lower.

2.3 Registrations and certifications by qualification type

The following figures detail the number of registrations and certifications over a three-year period, broken down by qualification type. As there are peaks and troughs throughout the year for SVQs, it is more appropriate to compare the number of registrations and certifications to the equivalent quarter from the previous year rather than the preceding quarter.

2.3.1 SVQs

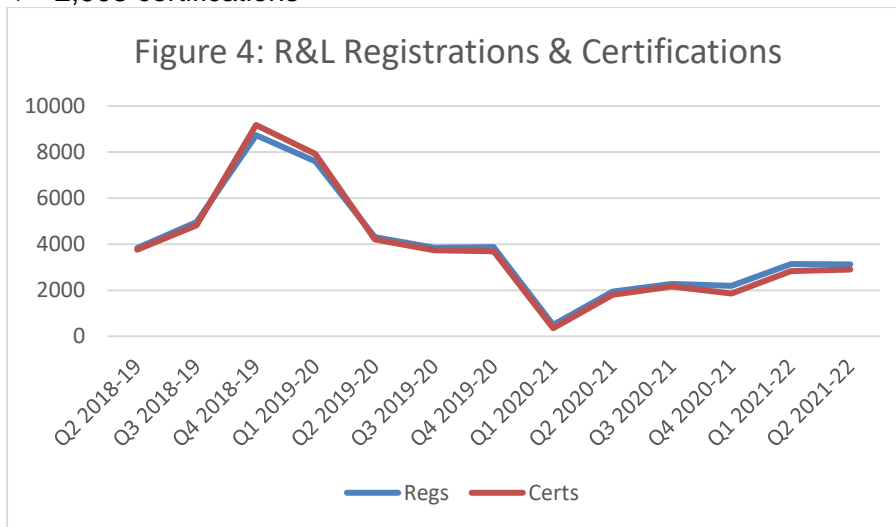
- ◆ 8,024 registrations
- ◆ 7,521 certifications



- ◆ Compared to Q2 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ registrations has increased by 75.6%.
- ◆ Compared to Q2 of 2020–21, the number of SVQ certifications has increased by 31.6%.

2.3.2 Regulatory & Licensing (R&L)

- ◆ 3,122 registrations
- ◆ 2,903 certifications



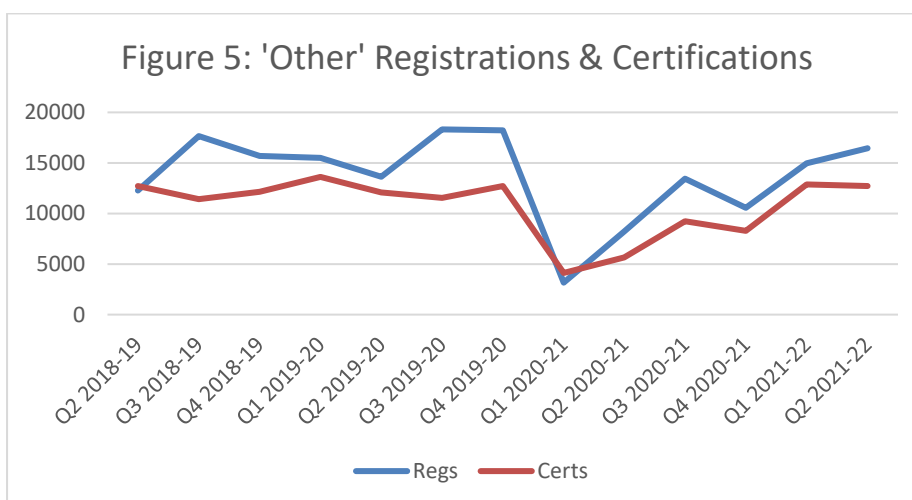
In comparison to Q1 of 2021–22:

- ◆ R&L registrations are 0.4% fewer in Q2.
- ◆ R&L certifications are 2.5% higher in Q2.

The peak in Q4 2018–19 can be attributed to the Scottish Certificate for Personal License Holders (Refresher) qualifications. The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 came into full effect in September 2009. A refresher course is required every five years.

2.3.3 'Other' qualifications

- ◆ 16,458 registrations
- ◆ 12,710 certifications



In comparison to Q1 2021–22:

- ♦ registrations for other qualifications have increased by 10%
- ♦ certifications for other qualifications have decreased by 1.2%

2.4 Analysis by awarding body

At the end of the second quarter there were 36 awarding bodies approved by SQA Accreditation. The number of qualifications offered by each awarding body varies greatly. The five largest awarding bodies, in terms of qualifications offered, are:

Awarding body	Number of accredited qualifications*
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	472
City & Guilds	70
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	60
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	41
National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health (NEBOSH)	38

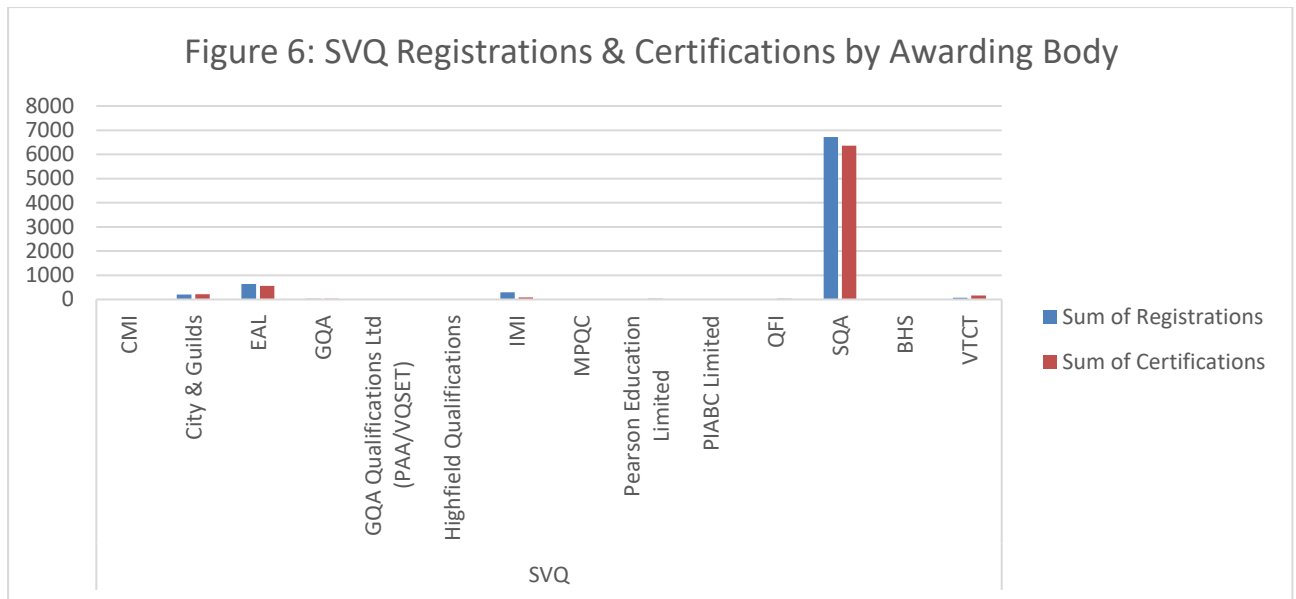
*Including qualifications that have passed their lapse dates.

Registrations and certifications can be further categorised based on qualification type — SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing and 'Other'.

2.4.1 SVQs

SQA continues to have the highest number of SVQ registrations and certifications:

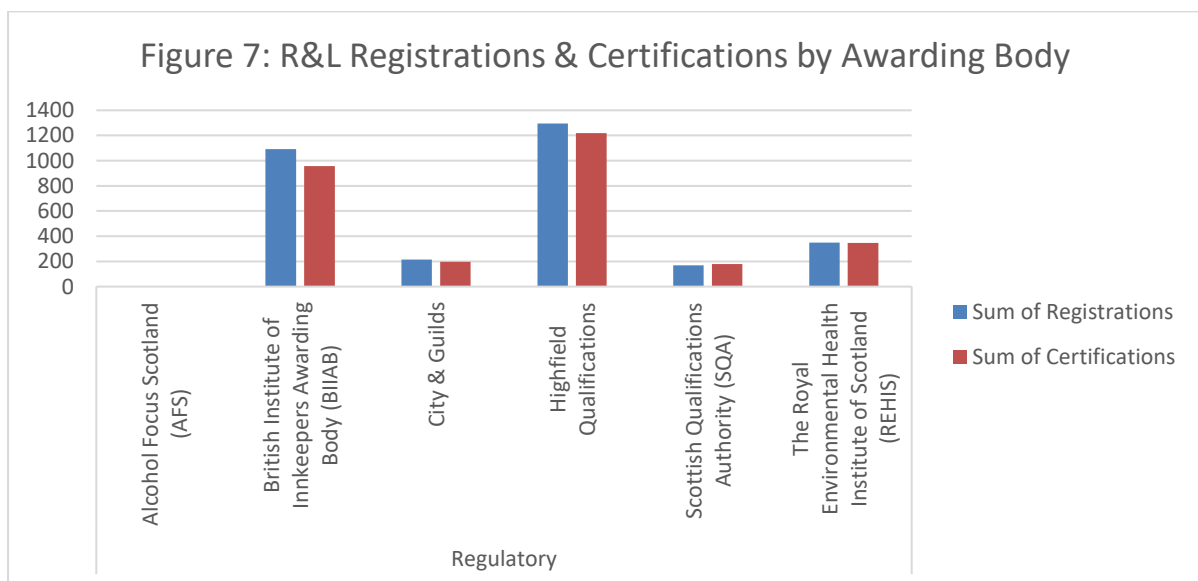
- ♦ 83.8% of registrations
- ♦ 84.6% of certifications



2.4.2 Regulatory and Licensing

Highfield Qualifications accounted for the highest number of R&L registrations certifications:

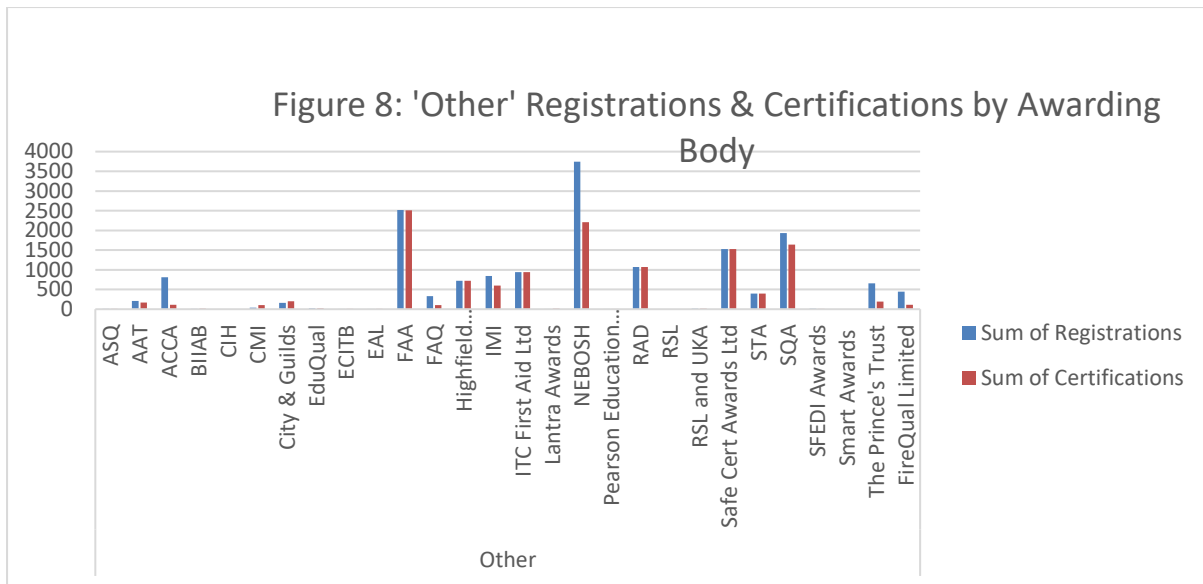
- ◆ 41.5% of registrations
- ◆ 42% of certifications



2.4.3 'Other' qualifications

National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health (NEBOSH) has the highest number of 'Other' registrations and certifications:

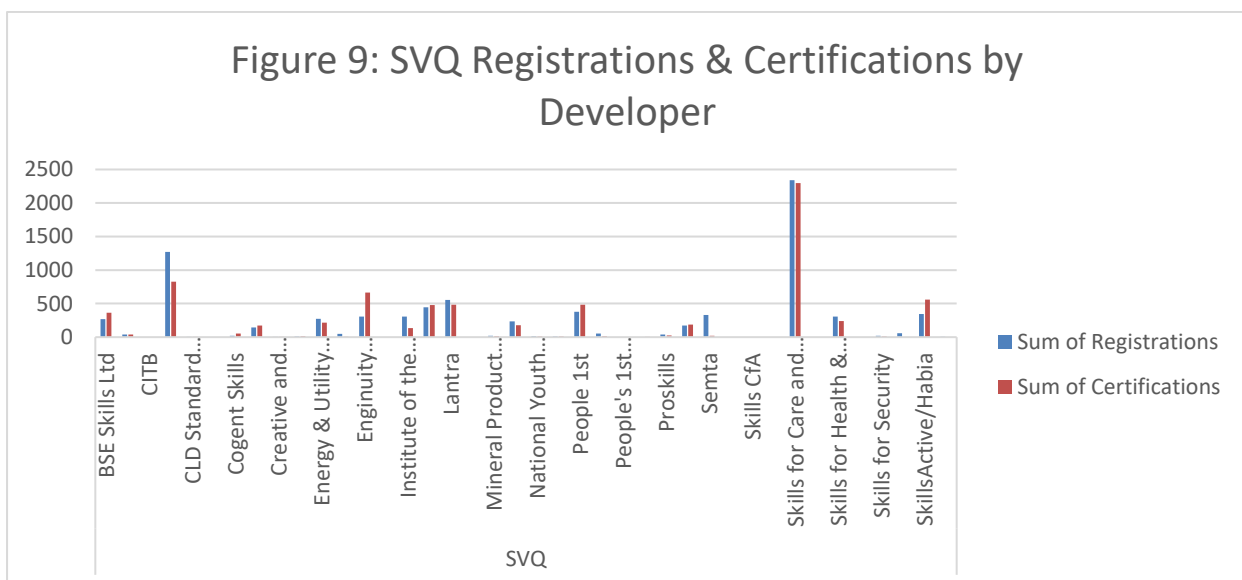
- ◆ 22.7% of registrations
- ◆ 23.4% of certifications



2.5 Analysis by developer

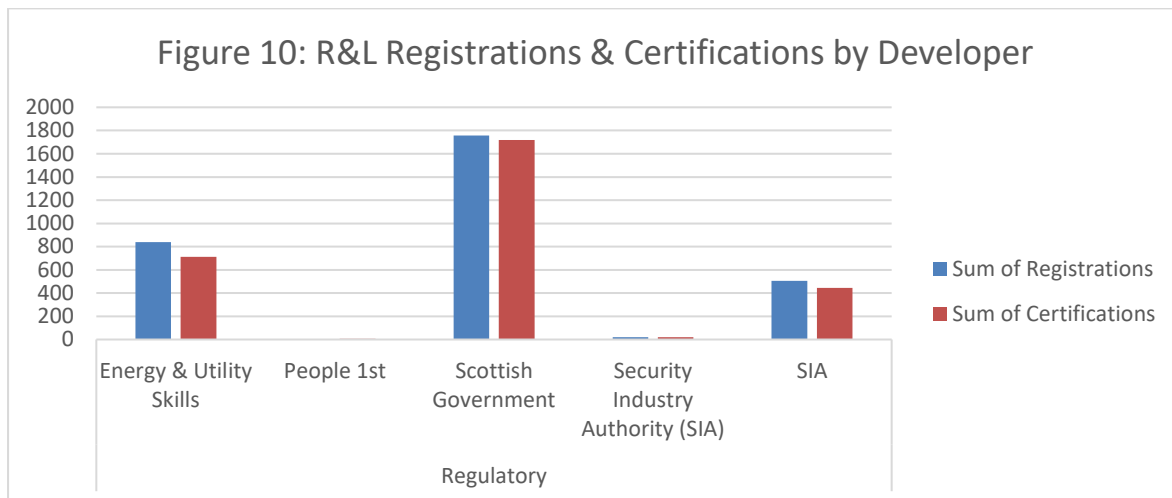
This section compares the registrations and certifications by developer across the three qualification types — SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing, and 'Other'.

2.5.1 SVQs



SVQs are favoured across a wide range of developers. Skills for Care and Development account for the largest proportion of SVQ registrations and certifications — 29.1% and 30.5%, respectively.

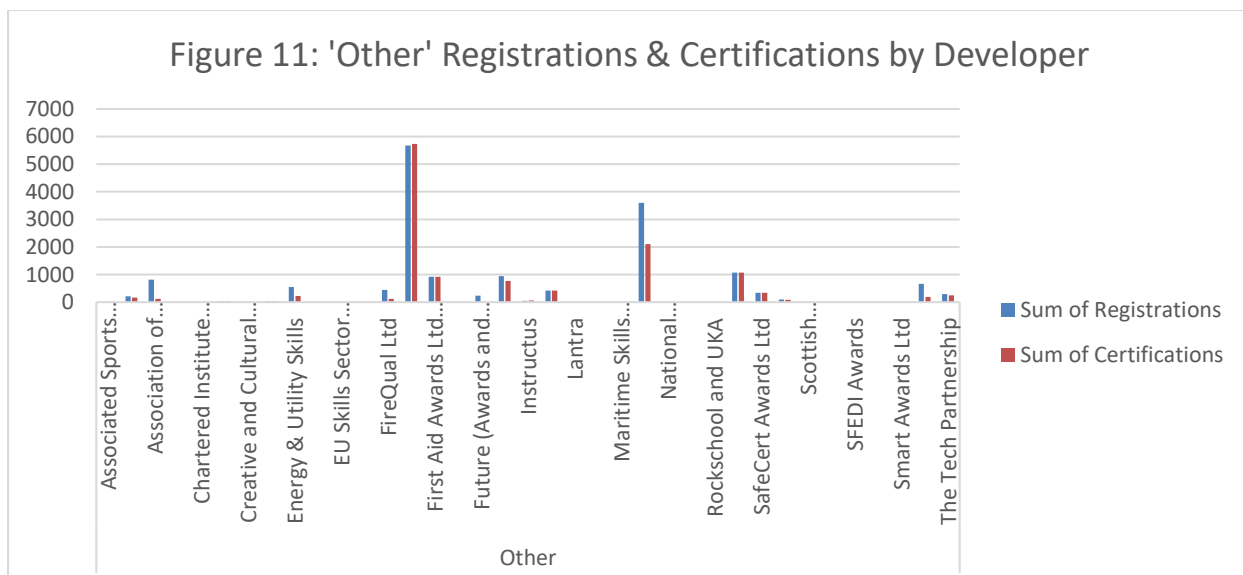
2.5.2 Regulatory and Licensing



Compared to SVQs, Regulatory & Licensing qualifications are offered by a smaller range of developers and are largely in the Security and First Aid sectors. Scottish Government accounts for the largest proportion of registrations and certifications — 56.3% and 59.2% respectively.

2.5.3 'Other' qualifications

While a wide range of organisations develop 'Other' qualifications across different industries, the majority of registrations can be attributed to a small number of developers, and hence a small number of sectors.

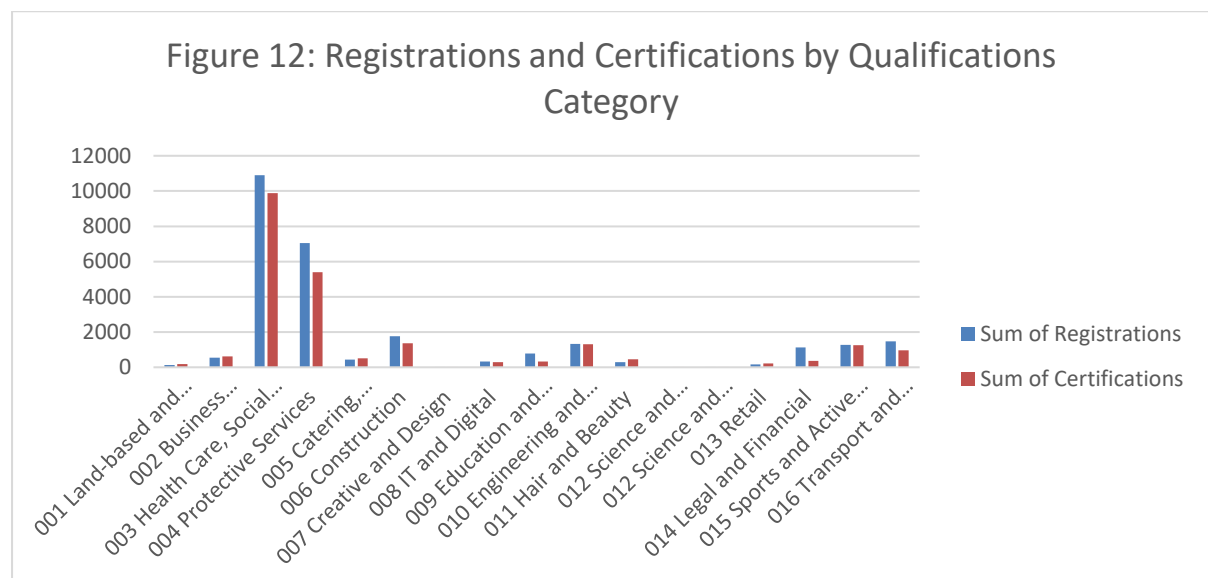


The largest proportion of registrations and certifications in qualifications were developed by First Aid Awarding Organisation Forum; 34.5% of registrations and 45.1% of certifications.

2.6 Analysis by qualification categories

SQA Accreditation assign qualifications to one of the following 16 qualification categories:

- ◆ 001 Land-based and Aquaculture
- ◆ 002 Business Administration
- ◆ 003 Health care, Social care and Childcare
- ◆ 004 Protective Services
- ◆ 005 Catering, Hospitality and Tourism
- ◆ 006 Construction
- ◆ 007 Creative and Design
- ◆ 008 IT and Digital
- ◆ 009 Education and Training
- ◆ 010 Engineering and Manufacturing
- ◆ 011 Hair and Beauty
- ◆ 012 Science and Mathematics
- ◆ 013 Retail
- ◆ 014 Legal and Financial
- ◆ 015 Sports and Active Leisure
- ◆ 016 Transport and Logistics



The area with the highest number of registrations and certifications is 003 Health Care, Social Care and Childcare.

- ◆ 39.5% of registrations
- ◆ 42.7% of certifications

By qualification type, the qualification categories with the highest number of registrations and certifications are:

Qualification type	Highest number of registrations		Highest number of certifications	
	Category	% of total regs	Category	% of total certs
SVQs	003	31.6%	003	32.9%
Regulatory & Licensing	004	100%	004	100%
Other	003	50.8%	003	58.2%

3 Workplace Core Skills

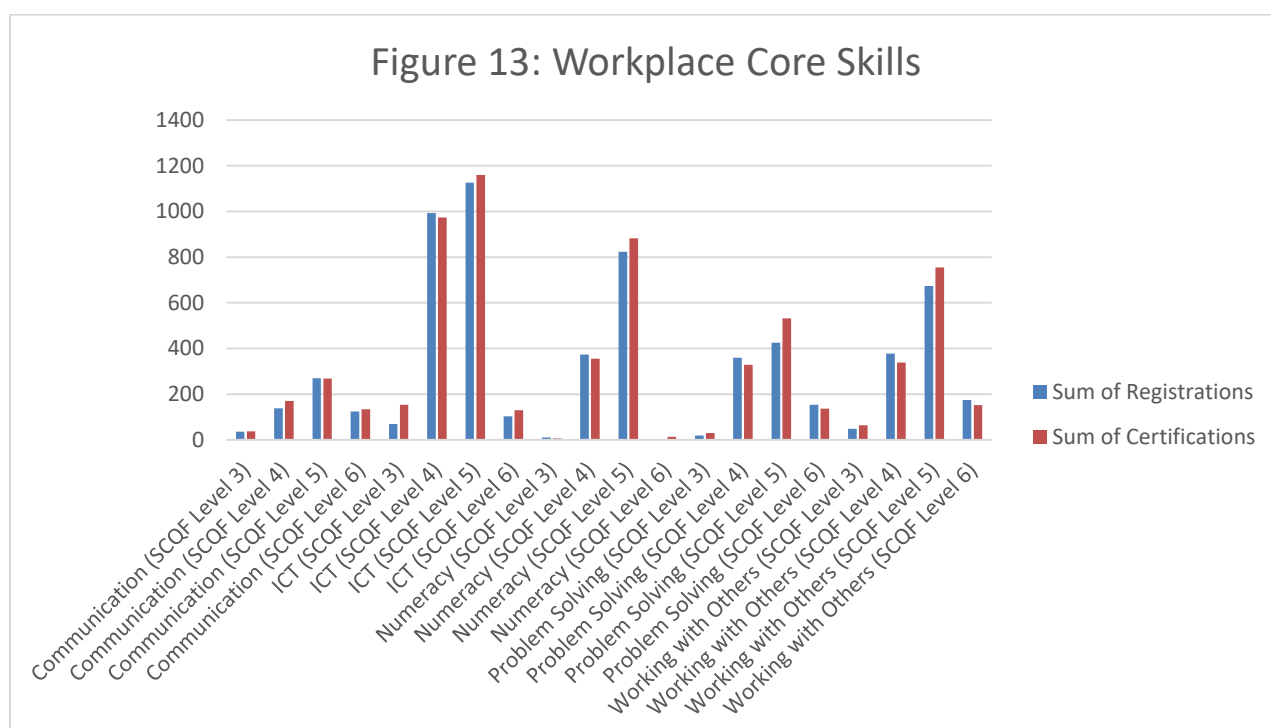
Workplace Core Skills are the broad, transferable skills that help to develop the main capabilities people need to be full, active and responsible members of society. Workplace Core Skills were specifically developed to assess Core Skills in a work environment. They contribute to employability and are a component of Modern Apprenticeships in Scotland. Each Workplace Core Skill is available at SCQF levels 3 to 6.

The five Workplace Core Skills are:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
- ◆ Numeracy
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Working with Others

At the end of Q2 2021–22, there were:

- ◆ 145 accredited Workplace Core Skills
- ◆ 6,302 registrations (a decrease of 15.4% compared to Q1)
- ◆ 6,621 certifications (an increase of 18.4% compared to Q1)



Workplace Core Skills are offered by eight awarding bodies.

Awarding body	Registrations	Certifications
British Institute of Innkeepers Awarding Body (BIAB)	0	0
City & Guilds	0	274
Excellence, Achievement & Learning Ltd (EAL)	94	76
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)	451	560
Pearson Education Limited	99	55
Qualifications for Industry (QFI)	6	11
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)	5588	5628
Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)	64	17
Grand Total	6302	6621

*City & Guilds registers candidates for Workplace Core Skills on a one-to-many basis using their internal Programme of Study number (PoS), therefore it is not possible at this time to generate registration figures for each Core Skill.

SQA continues to have the highest registrations and certifications for Workplace Core Skills:

- ◆ 88.7% of registrations
- ◆ 85% of certifications